

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on June 6, 2007.

Claims 1, 5, 7-8, 16, 19, 23 and 25-26 are amended, claims 4 and 22 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 1-3, 5-21 and 23-26 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 16 and 19 have been amended to incorporate elements of now canceled claims 4 and 22. Claims 5, 7-8, 23 and 25-26 have been amended to provide correct claim dependency in view of the cancellation of claims 4 and 22. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been introduced with the amendments.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-3 and 16-21 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bolle et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,597,802). Independent claims 1, 16 and 19 have been amended to incorporate all the elements of claims 4 and 22, which were indicated to be allowable over Bolle and the prior art. Applicant respectfully submits that because claims 1, 16 and 19 as amended include the elements of allowable claims 4 and 22, claims 1, 16 and 19 are not anticipated by Bolle and are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 16 and 19.

Claims 2-3, 17-18, and 20-21 depend from claims 1, 16 and 19 respectively, and are therefore also allowable because they depend from an allowable base claim. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-3, 17-18 and 20-21.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 9-15 were allowed in the Office Action.

Claims 4-8 and 22-26 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As noted above, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 19 to include the elements of now canceled claims 4 and 22, which where

indicated in the Office Action to be allowable. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 5-8 and 23-26 remain allowable.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

In the interest of clarity and brevity, Applicant may not have addressed every assertion made in the Office Action. Applicant's silence regarding any such assertion does not constitute any admission or acquiescence. Applicant reserves all rights not exercised in connection with this response, such as the right to challenge or rebut any tacit or explicit characterization of any reference or of any of the present claims, the right to challenge or rebut any asserted factual or legal basis of any of the rejections, the right to swear behind any cited reference such as provided under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, or the right to assert co-ownership of any cited reference. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited references or any other references of record are relevant to the present claims, or that they constitute prior art. Applicant reserves all rights to pursue any cancelled claims in a subsequent patent application claiming the benefit of priority of the present patent application, and to request rejoinder of any withdrawn claim, as required by MPEP § 821.04.

CONCLUSION


Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney ((612) 373-6954) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

RAJA NEOGI

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Date August 31, 2007 By 
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 31st day of August 2007.

Amy Moriarty
Name


Signature